

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of L-carnitine or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts for the preparation of a medicine useful for~~A method of reducing the number of deaths caused by acute myocardial infarction and for improving the short-and long-term prognosis in the patients treated with it, ~~in which L-carnitine is administered~~comprising intravenously administering L-carnitine or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts within the first few hours of onset of the symptoms of acute myocardial infarction at an initial dose of 9 grams a day for 5 days, after which the treatment is continued as a dose of 4 grams a day by mouth.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of L-carnitine or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts in combination with one or more known drugs, and/or known mechanical and/or surgical techniques, which alone would fail to reduce the number of deaths in infarct victims, for the preparation of a medicine useful for~~A method of reducing the number of deaths caused by acute myocardial infarction and for improving the short and long-term prognosis in the patients treated, ~~in which L-carnitine is administered~~comprising intravenously administering L-carnitine or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts within the first few hours of onset of the symptoms of acute myocardial infarction at an initial dose of 9 grams a day for 5 days, after which the treatment is continued at a dose of 4 grams a day by mouth in combination with one or more drugs, and/or mechanical

and/or surgical techniques, which alone would fail to reduce the number of deaths in infarct victims.

3. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 1 or 2, in which L-carnitine is administered intravenously within 6 hours of onset of the symptoms of acute myocardial infarction.

4. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 1 or 2, in which L-carnitine is administered intravenously within 4 hours of onset of the symptoms of acute myocardial infarction.

5. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The use according to claim 1 or claim 2 in which the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of L-carnitine is selected from the group consisting of chloride, bromide, orotate, aspartate, acid aspartate, acid citrate, magnesium citrate, phosphate, acid phosphate, fumarate and acid fumarate, magnesium fumarate, lactate, maleate and acid maleate, oxalate, acid oxalate, pamoate, acid pamoate, sulphate, acid sulphate, glucose phosphate, tartrate and acid tartrate, glycerophosphate, mucate, magnesium tartrate, 2-amino-ethane sulphonate, magnesium 2-amino-ethane sulphonate, methane sulphonate, choline tartrate, trichloroacetate, and trifluoroacetate.

6. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 2, in which the drug ~~which alone would fail to reduce the number of deaths in infarct victims~~ is selected from

the group consisting of beta-blockers, calcium antagonists, aspirin, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors, ~~or~~and ACE inhibitors.

7. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 6, in which the ACE inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of ÷ alacepril, benazepril, benazeprilat, captopril, ceronapril, cilazapril, delapril, enalapril, enaprilat, fosinopril, imidapril, indolapril, lisinopril, moveltipril, perindopril, pentopril, pivalopril, quinapril, ramipril, spirapril, temocapril, trandolapril ~~or~~and zofenopril.

8. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 6, in which the calcium antagonist is selected from the group consisiting of dilthiazem, nifedipine, verapamil, nicardipine ~~or~~and nimodipine.

9. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 2, in which the mechanical technique is angioplasty ~~and~~or the surgical technique is by-pass.

10. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 1 or 2, in which the L-carnitine for oral administration is in the form of a tablets, capsules, powders, granules, syrups, elixirs, suspensions or solutions.

11. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 1 or 2, in which the L-carnitine for intravenous administration is in the form of a suspensions or a solutions in a suitable vehicles.

12. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 11, in which the vehicle is selected from the group consisting of distilled water, a saline solution ~~or~~and a glucose solution.

13. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 2, in which the combination can be administered in a single pharmaceutical composition combining the active ingredients in a suitable pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

14. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 2, in which the active ~~ingredients can be~~drug and the L-carnitine are administered separately in parallel or in sequence.

15. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 2, in which the active ~~ingredients present in the combination can be~~drug and the L-carnitine are administered in ~~any~~a suitable dosage form or combinations thereof.

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**Serial No. 10/538,868**  
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16. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 2, in which the ~~combination is~~drug and the L-carnitine are in the form of a kit combining the active ingredients, separately, in a single pack.

17. (currently amended) ~~Use~~The method according to claim 16, in which the kit components are administered by different routes and/or at different times.